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and life in general; this is conspicuously true in his treatment of "The Public Address," and should help to vitalize for the high-school student the antipathetic "Speech on Conciliation." Again, though he deals adequately with material and purpose in every case, Mr. Tisdel does not neglect the study of technique. Time and again he questions, "What method is used?" and diverts the inexperienced from an absorption in merely appreciative criticism.

Part II, which offers a survey of the seven great periods of English literature in 171 pages, is less successful. We are inclined to question somewhat the properties of a work of this sort which devotes more space to the Middle English period than to any other literary epoch. We question, also, the value of any discussion of such writers as Otway, Etheredge, Wycherley, Robert Burton, Sir Thomas Browne, and the poets of the metaphysical school, since it has been possible to give only a page and a half each to Thackeray, George Eliot, Stevenson, and Shelley. And finally, we regret that the author feels forced to substitute for his interpretative use of the Socratic method, meager summaries of such works as *The Canterbury Tales* and *The Faerie Queene*. When he allows himself to be specific, Mr. Tisdel is vivid, interesting, and helpful; when he resorts to encyclopedic generalizations, he, like many another, is of minimum value.

The book contains sixteen interesting full-page illustrations and a selected bibliography, with prices suited to the needs of a working library for the study of English in high school.

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*Essentials of Physics.* By GEORGE A. HOADLEY. New York: American Book Co., 1913. Pp. 550. \$1.25.

The revision of the author's *Elements of Physics* will be stimulating alike to teacher and pupil. The instructor who prefers to select illustrative material from the facts of everyday life will find this book well adapted to his purposes. The diagrams are admirably executed and significant, and the press work leaves nothing to be desired. Several paragraphs have been rewritten; others have been amplified to discuss many of the commercial applications of the principles of physics.

The chapters are arranged as follows: Introductory; The Properties of Matter; The Mechanics of Solids; Liquids; Gases; Sound; Heat; Magnetism; Electricity; Light; and Invisible Radiations. A useful set of conversion factors and a summary of the important formulas of elementary physics are given at the end of the book.

The full-page illustrations include, among others, the remarkable photographs of sound waves obtained by Professor Arthur L. Foley and Mr. W. H. Souder; the Wireless Station, Wellfleet, Mass.; moving-picture films; an

electric locomotive; section views of the automobile; a vacuum cleaning system; an aeroplane; Zeppelin airships; Gatun Upper Locks, Panama Canal; and the electric generators at Niagara Falls.

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*Chemistry and Its Relations to Daily Life.* By LOUIS KAHLENBERG and EDWIN B. HART. New York: Macmillan, 1913. Pp. 375; 109 figures.

This book is intended for a text for students of agriculture and home economics in secondary schools. The authors have as their aim "to make the subject-matter thoroughly practical in character and to present it in an interesting and simple way." Of the whole work, 320 pages are devoted to the text proper; 55 pages of directions for 152 practical laboratory experiments and a list of apparatus and chemicals necessary for the course follow the text proper.

The first eleven chapters follow along the lines usually recognized by the elementary treatises on chemistry. But 7 pages of fundamental considerations introduce the student to the study of water and its purification. Especial emphasis to the industrial aspects of the science leaves little time and space to principles. No attention is given to the elementary theories. It is evidently the purpose of the authors to give facts instead of principles. No attempt is made to explain the conditions under which chemical reactions take place. However, formulas and equations are numerous throughout the book. This is especially true of the chapter on carbon, where many rational formulas of complex organic compounds are introduced. The empirical method of the presentation of an enormous number of facts which makes for memory rather than inductive development (upon which greater structures can be built) furnishes the chief ground for criticism of this volume.

The second part of the book deals with such applied subjects as: Rubber; Paints, Oils, and Varnishes; The Soil; Fertilizers; Plant Food; Animal Food; Human Food; Milk; Farm and Orchard Pests. The last 9 chapters were written primarily for the student of agriculture. This portion of the text represents the result of excellent discrimination and judgment in the choice of facts that are sure to be of great value to the boy and girl on the farm. If the student can master the necessary fundamentals of the science through the first part, this book should find its place as a text in the high schools of the country and of the smaller towns. For college preparatory courses it will be a valuable reference book. As a whole there is too much for one year's work.

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